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~~This patent application claims priority from International Patent Application PCT/US98/08798, filed on April 30, 1998, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/847,151, filed on April 30, 1997.~~

At page 20, line 11, please delete "United States patent X,XXX,XXX".

At page 20, lines 13-14, please delete "X,XXX,XXX" and insert -6,083,923-- therefor.

At page 20, line 25, please delete "United States patent X,XXX,XXX".

At page 21, line 3, please delete "United States patent X,XXX,XXX".

At page 23, line 12, please delete "X,XXX,XXX" and insert -6,083,923-- therefor.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 30. Also, please rewrite claim 12 as indicated below.

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12. (amended) A [The] pharmaceutical composition comprising [of claim 10 which comprises] at least one penetration enhancer and an oligonucleotide which, during or after administration into the alimentary canal, has enhanced bioavailability compared to a phosphorothioate oligodeoxynucleotide of substantially the same sequence, wherein said